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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea

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SUBJECT Ch'olsan Monazite Mines: Processing and Workers

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PLACE 25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

PLACE
ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO May - July 1951

SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X

- On 13 June 1951 there were about 30,000 workers who had been mobilized for work in the Ch'olsan (124-40, 39-46) (XE 4303) monazite mines. In the month of July, the number of workers to be mobilized under a "fifth-term" program was to be increased to 50,000 persons. At the same time the amount of monazite sands to be produced by each worker was to be raised from four to seven kilograms per day for those working in a mine of average quality, and ten kilograms per day for those working in the mines of highest quality.¹
- Workers in the Ch'olsan mines screened the sands by first placing the sands they gathered in wooden boxes with a wire grid in the bottom, and filling the box to about a third of its depth. The box was then sifted in running water of the streams near which the sands were gathered, the heavier monazite sand collecting in the bottom of the box on the wire grid. The sands were then dried and put in a fan-like device which blew away all but the best quality sand.² The refined sand was then transported by trucks to the Ch'aryong'wan railroad station for shipment to Manchuria.
- On 27 May 1951 KIM Won-tae, chairman of the Ch'olsan-gun (124-40, 39-45) (XE 4301) People's Committee, issued Regulation No. 114, "Instructions on the Standard Schedules," setting up the procedures to be followed in the administration of the county. Item No. 8, addressed to food administration officials in each county, established procedures to be followed by the officials in providing food for the trip to the mine area of those mobilized for work in the mines. Distribution of food for those laborers who were employed before being mobilized was to be in accordance with the individual's "food distribution termination certificate"; distribution to laborers un-employed at the time of their mobilization was to be made according to the number of laborers reported by the responsible officials in charge of the group. The regulation directed that 700 grams of grain, fifty percent in rice and fifty percent in other cereals, be issued each day to every worker making a journey on foot of more than 32 kilometers from his home to the mines.

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SECURITY INFORMATION
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A. In the "Summary of Military Registration Procedures," forwarded by Kim Hung-chu, acting chief of the military mobilization section of Sonch'on-gun (124-53, 39-46) (XE 6103), on 28 May 1951, local administration officials were instructed not to include workers at the Sonch'on mines in the reports on statistics connected with military registration. Instead, those residents considered workers in the mines but also in a classification subject to conscription were to be listed in separate reports.

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1 [REDACTED] Comment. There were about 30,000 laborers at the Cholsan mines in mid-June 1951, which figure was to be doubled in view of increased Soviet demands. [REDACTED] The [REDACTED] report states that a labor conference in mid-June decided to raise the minimum daily production quota per worker from four to six kilograms.

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2 [REDACTED] Comment. Equipment at the mines included agitating table separators and mechanical ore-dressing equipment, according to [REDACTED]

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